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BOOK REVIEWS

THE SCHOOL NURSE. A survey of the duties and responsibilities of the nurse in the maintenance of health and physical perfection and the prevention of disease among school children. By Lina Rogers Struthers, R.N., graduate of the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto; post graduate of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal; superintendent of school nurses, New York City, 1902-1908; superintendent of school nurses, Toronto, 1910-1913. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London. Price, \$1.75.

Lina Rogers Struthers, the first municipal school nurse, is clearly the logical person to give to the public this survey of the work of the school nurse. The trained nurse in the public schools has been officially recognized in this country for about fifteen years and yet this is the first book written on the subject exclusively. "Many books have been written more or less from the point of view of the medical inspector and but little has been said of the important place of the trained nurse in the work." The struggle between education and health; the efforts of philanthropies to protect the communities from contagion; and the early unsystematized efforts to conserve the health of the child brought about medical inspection in schools. This, in turn, because of the need of a "follow up" system, evolved the school nurse. To show the growth of this work, Mrs. Struthers gives us a concise account of the beginnings of school nursing in the principal cities of England, America and Canada. The invaluable services of the nurse are clearly depicted, both in the routine treatments and inspections, and in the larger field of social service. As the author says, "All the social problems of humanity face the school nurse." Sound advice for organization in new communities, suggestive rules of conduct and regulations for inspections are included. Brief reference is given to the diseases commonly found among school children, as a guide for the detection of symptoms. A chapter on Dental Caries and Prophylaxis gives necessary information in a most readable manner. The many illustrations enhance the value of the volume and make it especially attractive. Everyone interested in the advancement of Public Health Nursing will find this book an intelligent and authoritative reference for this branch of the work.